MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Hephzibah Baptist Association.

HELD AT

HEPHZIBAH CHAPEL, RICHMOND COUNTY, GA.,

IN THE

12th AND 14th OF SEPTEMBER, 1863.

Augusta, Georgia:
CHRONICLE & SENTINEL STEAM POWER PRESS
1863.

MINUTES.

Hephzibah, Richmond Co., Ga.,
September 12, 1863.

1. Exercises opened with the Introductory Sermon by Rev. W. L. Kilpatrick, from 1 Timothy iv : 16.

2. After recess the Association was called to order by George W. Evans. Read letters from twenty-eight churches.

3. Elected Rev. W. H. Davis, Moderator, Rev. W. L. Kilpatrick, Clerk, and H. H. Hickman, Treasurer.

4. Invited visiting brethren to seats in the Body: accepted by Rev. E. W. Warren, of the Central Association.

5. Appointed Committees :

On Preaching—H. H. Hickman, J. L. Z. Odett, J. W. Brinson, with the Pastor and Delegates of this Church.

On Business—Geo. W. Evans, B. E. Fryer, L. F. Powell.

On Nominations—B. B. Miller, N. Smith, M. McElmurry.

On Finance—Wm. C. Musgrove, F. A. Pollhill, A. J. Holmes.

On Deceased Ministers—Geo. Stapleton, J. A. Bessier, T. Skinner.

On Publications—W. L. Kilpatrick, W. T. Holmes, R. H. Lazenby.

On Sabbath Schools—M. P. Cain, J. J. Pierce, M. C. Perkins.

On Temperance—E. E. Carswell, H. Williams, W. Rogers.

On Circular Letter—L. F. Powell, W. T. Holmes, J. Whitaker.

6. Appointed J. J. Carswell to write the Corresponding Letter.

7. Ordered the Clerk to sell at private sale some copies of the Pamphlet remaining from the Home Mission, and to appropriate the proceeds to liquidating the indebtedness of the School.

8. Ordered the collection, which shall be taken up on Sabbath morning, to be equally divided between Army Missions and the H. B. School.

9. Committee on Preaching report : Rev. E. W. Warren to preach at 11 o'clock in the Chapel ; Rev. M. P. Cain at the same time at the stand. Rev. D. G. Daniel to preach at 2 o'clock in the Chapel ; Rev. L. F. Powell same time at the stand. Rev. W. H. Davis at Presbyterian Church, Richmond Bath.

10. Adjourned till Monday, 11 o'clock.

SABBATH.

The exercises of the Sabbath were quite interesting. The services of the afternoon were changed from the original design. A Missionary Mass Meeting was held by the Rev. D. G. Daniel, from the Army Mission, and Rev. R. H. Stone, from the Central African Mission. Proceeds of collection given, one-third to the former, and two-thirds to the latter Mission.

MONDAY.

11. After spending one hour in prayer for our country, Association commenced business at 10 o'clock.

12. Called the Roll and read the Minutes.

13. Adopted Report of Committee on Business.

14. Again invited to seats visiting brethren.

15. Called for Correspondents—Received from *The Edgefield Association* a Letter, borne by brethren W. Bodie and R. Timmerman. Circumstances prevented these brethren from being present when the Letter was read.

Received Rev. D. G. Daniel from the Domestic Mission Board.

Received Rev. R. H. Stone from the Foreign Mission Board.

16. Appointed Correspondents:

As the change in the time of the sitting of this Body has brought off our session before that of the bodies to which we had appointed correspondents last year, those appointments remained. To those appointed last year to the Washington Association, an addition was made of T. Skinner, Geo. W. Evans, J. J. Pierce, and Geo. Stapleton.

To Mt. Vernon Association—(for year '63) M. P. Cain, E. J. Pannal, F. A. Polhill: to meet at New Bethel 1st Sabbath in November.

To Edgefield Association—(for '64) Geo. W. Evans, H. H. Hickman, J. J. Pierce, W. J. Owens, Thos. Winn: to meet at Mt. Lebanon, Edgefield District, S. C., Wednesday before 2d Sabbath in September.

To the Georgia—(for '64) Geo. W. Evans, W. T. Holmes, J. J. Pierce, H. H. Hickman, T. Winn.

To the Middle—(for '64) L. F. Powel, W. L. Kilpatrick, W. H. Davis, M. P. Cain.

To the Washington—(for '64) E. J. Pannal, Geo. W. Evans, J. W. Brinson, G. Stapleton, W. T. Holmes.

To the Union—(for '64) W. H. Davis, J. A. Rosier, F. A. Jones.

17. Committee on Nominations report:

Rev. A. I. Huntington to preach the Introductory Sermon: Rev. E. R. Carswell Alternate. Rev. W. H. Davis the Missionary Sermon: Rev. L. F. Powel Alternate. Rev. M. P. Cain to write the Circular.

18. Committee on Deceased Ministers report:

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of two of our ministering brethren since the last session of this Body.

Our venerable and much beloved brother, JOSHUA KEY, departed this life on the eleventh of November last: and our beloved young brother, ALFRED ROXEY, in the midst of great usefulness, was called away on the fourth of June last.

Brethren, let us be earnest at the Mercy Seat of Christ, imploring the great head of the Church to send forth more laborers into the vineyard of the Lord. Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE STAPLETON, *Chairman.*

19. Committee on Publications report:

In view of the deranged condition of our commercial interests it is not possible for us to purchase books only to a very limited extent; hence it would be useless for us to recommend any to you. Let us read again the good books which we have, and let us especially be careful to support our religious papers, and scatter them with a liberal hand among our armies. Respectfully submitted,

W. L. KILPATRICK, *Chairman.*

20. Committee on Sabbath Schools report:

While the desolations of war are seen and felt in everything, nothing is more depressing to the pious heart than the neglect of Sabbath Schools.

Feeling as your Committee do, that the destinies of our infant Republic rest upon the moral and religious training of our children, it is with *great pain* that we see such indifference manifested on this subject. For while so many day schools are necessarily broken up, and so little interest taken in Sabbath Schools, as a nation, we fear we are drifting on to an ominous future. Ignorance is a curse. Moral degredation the precursor of final overthrow. It therefore behooves every Christian patriot to wake up to a sense of danger and duty on this vital subject.

We therefore recommend that we have a Sabbath School in every church if practicable.

We recommend farther the adoption of the following Resolution:

Resolved, That there be a Sabbath School "Mass Meeting" at this Institution on Sabbath of the next Commencement exercises, and prizes awarded to children of schools who have made the greatest attainments. Respectfully,

M. P. CAIN, *Chairman.*

21. Committee on Temperance report:

Notwithstanding the multiplied and cruel calamities precipitated upon our country by the present crisis, we may congratulate ourselves in view of the fact that access to ardent spirits has been rendered more difficult

by the scarcity of the supply. We are happy to know that the great temperance principles advocated by the good and true men of other days have received a practical endorsement by our military and civil authorities. We would urge upon parents the importance of so training their children that when the present generation of tipplers has died out, we shall have a generation of honest, sober men.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. CARSWELL, *Chairman.*

22. Committee on the Circular report:

We approve of the Circular letter, and present it to be read

23. Ordered the Circular Letter read and printed.

24. Heard report of the Treasurer of the Association.

25. Heard report of the Treasurer of the Hephzibah High School.

26. Ordered Treasurer of Hephzibah High School to refund himself forty seven 97-100 dollars which he had advanced.

27. Heard report of the Trustees of Hephzibah High School. Since the last time we had the pleasure of reporting to you many difficulties have beset our way. In December last our beloved Chairman, brother BATT JONES, was called away by our Heavenly Father. We mourn him because he was efficient in counsel, and a pleasant co-laborer. May God raise up others like him. Dr. Wm. C. Musgrove was elected a member of the Board to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of brother Jones. The army has drawn off some of the more advanced of our pupils, while the unsettled state of affairs has hindered others from remaining.

We have been much troubled in regard to boarding facilities: and in order to obviate this difficulty have appointed the Rev. W. H. Davis our agent for collecting funds that we may erect a Boarding House, after paying off the debt which still rests upon us.

In May, brother L. L. Veazy, assistant Teacher, resigned his position because of ill health; the vacancy was filled for the remainder of the term by Miss Ella Sanford. We take pleasure in speaking of the faithful manner in which the Teachers of both the Literary and the Music Departments have discharged their duties.

The average attendance of pupils has been about sixty.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. KILPATRICK, *Sec. Board.*

28. Appointed General Meetings:

1st District--at Duharts, Friday before 3d Sabbath in August.

4th " none.

3rd " at Fort Creek, " " 3d Sabbath in July.

2d " at McBean, " " 5th Sabbath in July.

29. *Resolved*, That the Deacons in each Church belonging to this Association be and hereby are appointed to collect the surplus Bibles, Testaments and Hymn Books in their respective congregations, and place the same in the hands of Rev. W. L. Kilpatrick for the soldiers, unless a convenient opportunity shall present itself for forwarding them by safe hands directly to Rev. D. G. Daniel, Army Missionary, Savannah, Ga.

30. Ordered the Treasurer to pay over as soon as possible funds for the various benevolent enterprises recognised by this Body.

31. Ordered the Treasurer to pay over for the liquidation of the debt of the School any unappropriated funds in his hands.

32. Received Report of Financial Committee.

33. *Resolved*, That our devotion to the cause of Southern independence is unabated—that we stand ready to make any and every sacrifice that patriotism or Christianity may require to secure a successful issue to the struggle in which we are now engaged, and that we will continue to pray God to bless our country with an early and honorable peace.

34. Elected delegates to the Georgia Baptist Convention: W. H. Davis, A. J. Huntington, Geo. W. Evans, T. D. Key, W. L. Kilpatrick, M. P. Cain, E. B. Carswell, H. H. Tickman, W. T. Holmes, E. J. Pannal.

35. Clerk reported the books alluded to in Article 7, sold to brother Geo. W. Evans, and by him presented to the Hephzibah Church at this place.

36. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Body be tendered to the citizens of Brothersville and vicinity, for the kind and courteous hospitality extended to us during our stay among them.

37. Ordered Clerk to print 1500 copies of the Minutes, and receive $30 for services.

38. Next Association meets at Providence, Jefferson county, on Saturday before 4th Sabbath in October next.

39. Ordered W. L. Kilpatrick, W. H. Davis, and E. B. Carswell to dispose of funds for "Religious reading for soldiers."

40. No more business, adjourned.

W. H. DAVIS, *Moderator*.

W. L. KILPATRICK, *Clerk*.

STANDING RESOLUTION.

Any member presenting a copy of these Minutes may be recognised as a messenger to any Association with which we correspond.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Hephzibah Association to the Associations with which she corresponds—Greeting:

Dear Brethren:—We have truly at this session of our Body realized "how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Harmony, courtesy and brotherly love, have characterized all our deliberations.

Some of our Churches have during the past year been blessed of the Lord. But owing to the cruel war in which our nation is engaged, all, or nearly all, of our Churches have to mourn the death or absence of many of their most valuable members.

We regret that the faces of more of our brethren from sister Associations were not seen among us.

Brethren, pray for us "that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified," and that we may live to the praise and glory of our Redeemer.

W. H. DAVIS, *Moderator.*

W. L. Kilpatrick, *Clerk.*

MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

A. Adkins,.....Jubilee.	J. H. T. Kilpatrick,.. ...Richmond [Factory.
A. Beasly, ...Pope Hill	
J. Huff,.....Reedy Creek.	W. L. Kilpatrick.....Waynesboro'.
G. H. Cliett,.....Belair.	E. R. Carswell,.....Waynesboro'.
S. Stanford,.....Nebraska.	W. H. Davis,.....Waynesboro'.
W. J. Hard,.....Augusta.	W. T. Holmes,.....Louisville.
L. M. Carter,.....Augusta.	E. J. Pannal,.....Louisville.
A. J. Huntington,.....Augusta.	J. J. H. Harris,.....Warrenton.
Wm. Singleton,.....Augusta.	L. F. Powel.....Green's Cut.
C. Collins,.....Appling.	L. F. McNorrel,.....Green's Cut.
J. M. Cross,.....Midville.	M. P. Cain,.....Spiers' Turn Out.
L. B. Tully,.....Berzelia.	

TRUSTEES HEPHZIBAH HIGH SCHOOL.

Geo. W. Evans, *Chairman.*
Rev. W. L. Kilpatrick, *Secretary.*
J. F. Carswell, *Treasurer.*
Dr. Wm. C. Musgrove.
Rev. W. H. Davis.
T. D. Key.
Rev. A. J. Huntington.
Rev. G. H. Cliett.
Hon. S. Arrington.
H. H. Hickman.
Benjamin Palmer.
Hon. N. Smith.
J. S. Jordan.
Rev. E. R. Carswell.
Rev. J. H. T. Kilpatrick.

TEACHERS OF THE H. H. SCHOOL.

Vincent T. Sanford, A. M.,.....Principal.
Mrs. Adella Sanford,.....Assistant.
Mrs. A. Kiddo,.....Music Teacher.

RATES, TUITION, &c.

In Literary Department, $36, $48, $60 per year, according to studies Music, $75 per year.

For information, address Principal at Richmond Factory, Ga.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

H Hickman, Treasurer, in Account with Hephzibah Association.

1862.			
Oct. 27.	Received from Finance Committee.....		$1251 00
Nov. 13.	Paid S. J. Boykin, Index to soldiers.....	$ 22 20	
" "	" F. M. Haygood, Agent,.....	122 60	
" "	" do.....	22 20	
Dec. 27.	Refunded J. D. Key, late Treasurer.....	10 00	
Dec. 31.	Paid Burk, Boykin & Co., for Minutes...	80 00	
Jan. 1863.	" D. B. Plumb, Treas. 2d Bap. Church.	45 00	
" "	" Plumb & Leitner, Express on Minutes.	75	
" 19.	" J. F. Carswell, Treas. H. H. S.....	428 65	
" 26.	" Rev. J. H. Campbell.....	62 55	
Feb. 3.	" Rev. J. B. Taylor, C. S. F. Missions.	50 50	
" 25.	" Rev. W. L. Kilpatrick for services...	30 00	
Nov. 19.	" J. A. Brown, Treas. Sabbath School.	50 00	
" "	" E. R. Newhall, agt. S. B. P. Society.	20 00	
" "	" J. H. Mead, auditor Ga. R. & H. Asso'n	160 35	
" "	" R. Holman, agt. Domestic Missions..	146 00	
	Balance.....	20	
		$1251 00	$1251 00

H. H. HICKMAN, *Treasurer.*

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	Distance & Direction from Court House.	NAMES OF DELEGATES. ☞ Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPS. Licentiates in *Italics*.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excommunicated.	Restored.	Dead.	Number of Blacks.	Number of Whites.	Total.	Monthly Meeting, and 1st Sab.	PASTORS.
FIRST DISTRICT.													
Providence, Jefferson	W. 12.	M. P. Cain,	3	3	3	0	6	1	68	48	116	1st Feb.	M. P. Cain.
Bethel, Jefferson	S. 7.	Not represented								32	*32		
Pleasant Grove, Jefferson	N. W. 19.	S. Williams, A. J. Holmes	7	3	2	3	0	1	72	66	68	1st Mar	J. S. Fowler.
Dubart's, Jefferson	N. W. 8.	E. J. Pannal, W. T. Holmes	0	6	1	0	1	0	17	48	65	1st Feb	M. M. Morgan.
Louisville, Jefferson		F. A. Polhill,	9	6	2	0	0	0	109	28	137	4th Jan.	M. P. Cain.
Fellowship, Warren		Not represented								65	67	2d Mar.	J. S. Fowler
Mill Creek Warren		Not represented								56	58	2d Feb.	J. Hillman.
SECOND DISTRICT.													
Bark Camp, Burke	S. 22.	W. H. Davis, J. A. Rosier, W. C. Musgrove	11	2	0	0	2	1	195	77	270	2d Feb.	W. H. Davis.
Rocky Creek, Burke	W. 5.	E. H. Blount,	55	2	3	0	3	3	267	62	329	1st Mar.	W. L. Kilpatrick.
Bottsford, Burke	E. 8.	L. F. Powel,	0	0	0	0	0	5	175	91	266	4th Jan.	W. J. Murrow.
Buckhead, Burke	S. 15.	W. L. Kilpatrick, J. F. Carswell, M. C. Perkins,	20	1	0	1	3	4	134	37	171	4th Feb.	W. L. Kilpatrick.
Sardis, Burke	S. E. 16.	M. McElmurry,	2	0	0	0	0	2	74	81	155	1st Jan.	L. F. Powel.
McBean, Burke	N. E. 18.	R. W. Knight,	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	50	70	1st Jan.	L. F. McNorrel.
THIRD DISTRICT.													
Lit. Br. Creek, Warren		R. H. Lazenby, S. Rony,	0	3	6	0	0	0	56	67	123	1st Mar.	A. Adkins.
Reedy Creek, Warren	N. E. 17.	Geo. Stapleton, J. Lewis,	2	0	0	0	0	5	4	65	69	4th Feb.	J. S. Fowler.
Silver Run, Columbia	S. E. 20.	F. H. Powel,	19	3	2	2	2	0	10	146	156	1st Jan.	L. B. Tully.
Fort Creek, Columbia	S. 18.	H. P. Spier, S. J. Reeves, W. Pritlup,	2	1	1	1	0	1	8	52	60	3d Jan.	A. Rony.
Old Union, Columbia	S. E. 7.	J. S. Holmes, J. Whitaker,	1	1	1	0	0	2	41	37	78	3d Jan.	L. Tully.
Ways, Jefferson	N. 17.	J. W. Brinson, N. Smith,	1	1	4	0	0	0	37	80	117	1st Feb.	E. R. Carswell.
Mount Horeb, Jefferson	N. E. 21.	J. Champion, C. Russell, B. C. Gay,	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	60	61	1st Mar.	W. T. Holmes.
Mount Pleasant, Richmond	S. W. 20.	N. Rachels, D. Atkinson, M. Daniel,	14	2	0	0	0	0	11	51	62	3d Mar.	W. T. Holmes.
FOURTH DISTRICT.													
Brushy Creek, Burke	W. 13.	T. P. Carswell,	10	3	1	1	0	0	84	50	134	3d Feb.	W. H. Davis.
Hopeful, Burke	N. W. 12	B. B. Miller, B. Palmer, E. E. Fryer,							30	4	71	3d Jan.	E. R. Carswell.
Abline, Columbia	S. E. 30.	E. Skinner, J. L. Z. Clifett, T. Winn,	6	2	4	2	1	1	92	116	208	1st Feb.	G. H. Clifett.
Grove, Columbia	E. 15.	T. J. W. Newman,	28	1	2	3	4	1	83	67	166	4th Fri.	G. H. Clifett.
Piney Grove, Richmond	S. 16.	H. Williams, H. Hudson, A. J. Templeton, R. H. A. Clifett,	8	6	0	7	2	2	202	30	236	1st Jan.	E. J. Pannal.
Augusta, Richmond		Geo. W. Evans, H. H. Hickman, J. J. Pierce,	5	2	10	5	2	8		290	290	2d Jan.	A. J. Huntington.
2d Augusta, Richmond		Letter,	14	12	5	4	0	2		133	133	3d Jan.	G. H. Cuthbert.
Hephzibah, Richmond	S. 14.	J. H. T. Kilpatrick, V. T. Sanford, J. Saxon,	0	0	0	0	0	3		15	15	2d Feb.	E. R. Carswell.
Bethlehem, Richmond	W. 16	J. James, H. Wilds,	0	1	0	0	6	1	0	60	60	3d Feb.	G. H. Clifett.
Franklin Covenant, (colored)	S. 15	Nathan, Chesser, Henry,	4	1	0	1	3	2	155	....	155	1st Jan.	Joseph Walker
		AGGREGATE,	207	63	48	37	24	53	1829	2126	4097		

REPORT OF FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

CHURCHES.	Minutes	Asse (Shiloh Fund)	Domestic Mission	Foreign Mission	Indian Mission	Ballard's (pending)	J. H. Crawford	Georgia Home & Hospital Assn.	Wayside Home, Augusta	Bel. Hospital	Army Mission	Augusta Sabbath Schools	Bible & Col. Soc.	Index for soldiers	Indigent ministers	Wayside Home, Miller	TOTAL
Fairmont	2.60	2.00									45.00						54.00
Bethel																	
Pleasant Grove	3.00	5.00				15.25											23.25
Dutch Fork	1.75	1.00				52.00				1.00							56.75
Louisville	1.60	2.00				21.00					21.00						51.60
Lebo's Ship																	
Mill Creek																	
*Buck Camp	.50		41.00	51.00						28.00							131.00
Ballard	3.00	1.00				1.00											89.60
*Beckland	2.00	5.00								161.00				50.00	2.00		274.00
Sardis	1.00	5.00															86.00
Little Bier Creek	.50																4.50
Reedy Creek	2.00	1.00															6.50
Silver Run	5.00	6.00									53.40						64.40
32nd Union	2.00										20.00						22.00
*Ways	5.75	5.00	7.00	2.00							95.					6.00	200.00
*Mount Hermon	1.00	2.00															5.00
Mount Pleasant	1.00	2.00															4.00
Brushy Creek	5.00					20.00				8.00	4.00						125.00
Hopeful	5.00	1.00		5.00	5.00	14.00				21.00	170.80	17.25		25.00			313.20
Rocky Creek	2.00	5.00								7.00							64.00
Abilene	8.05					41		41	53.10					5.00			123.32
*Grove	4.00					21.00	20.00	20.00	20.00								90.00
Piney Grove	4.00	7.40															11.40
1st Augusta	10.00		150.00	10.00						7.00	903.00	101.75	5.00				1379.75
2d Augusta	1.00	15.00	10.00										10.00				40.70
Fort Creek	.50	1.00									13.00						28.00
McBean	5.00	3.00	5.00	1.00		21.75											39.75
Hephzibah	5.00	5.00								5.00	15.00			1.00			45.00
Frank Covenant	1.50			10.50													12.00
Belair	3.00					12.00			13.00					16.00			44.00
Total	102.85	78.95	971.16	983.81	12.0	121.77	67.00	58.41	71.44	639.15	1490.97	179.00	17.00	411.50	2.00	6.00	4121.77

[For Notes, see Page 12.]

NOTES TO REPORT OF FINANCIAL COMMITTEE, (*See Page 11.*)

NOTE.—The collections on Sabbath and on Monday, amounting to $1029,.9, have been divided according to the instructions received and are embraced in the sums total above.

☞Of the above, ABILINE CHURCH appropriates $5 to send one copy of the Index to Capt. Archer—one copy same to Capt. Torry, Richmond Hussars, Richmond, Va.

OLD UNION.—To send a Missionary to the Army, $20.

BUCKHEAD.—Index to "Miller Rangers," 21st Ga. Bat., George Town, S. C., $5. Also $30 for twenty copies of Index to Lt. W. A. Carswell, Company D, 47th Ga. Reg., Stovall's Brigade, Breckenridge's Division, now (Sept. '63) near Chattanooga, Tenn.

BARK CAMP.—Reports $266,50 sent during the year for Index for soldiers.

WAYS.—Reports $69,25 sent for same.

GROVE.—Directs one copy of Index ($5) to Company F, 10th Ga. Reg.

We have examined the Reports of the Treasurer of the Association and of the Treasurer of the H. H. School, and find them correct.

WM. C. MUSGROVE,
F. A. POLHILL,
A. J. HOLMES,
} Finance Committee.

☞Since adjournment, received of 2d Augusta $25 for Religious reading for soldiers.—CLERK.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

BY E. R. CARSWELL.

The duty of Christians in the present Crisis.

Christians may not avoid any duty incident to citizenship. On the contrary, the genius of their religion, while it does not increase the duties of citizenship, would render their faithful discharge, to the extent of available capacity, a matter of certainty. While it is the duty of the Christian to discharge the obligations of citizenship devolving in common upon all, there are duties which he is expected, even in ordinary times, and under ordinary circumstances to perform, the performance of which while equally binding upon others is not expected at their hands. If this be true in ordinary times, and under ordinary circumstances, its truth is intensified in times of peculiar interest and amid extraordinary surroundings.

We are now in the midst of one of the most portentous and gigantic political convulsions that was ever precipitated by a cruel tyranny on a noble, brave and generous people, or that was ever mourned by the Genius of Liberty as she wept the thousands of her gallant dead. The colossal proportions and startling magnitude of this dreadful struggle have never yet, as to its present horrors and future consequences, been fully understood or appreciated by the Southern people. It is the part of a lofty manhood to look every truth and every fact in the face, and to prepare to meet every danger, political or moral, present, or future.

Looking to the great political interests at stake, and the momentous temporal consequences involved in the final issue of this unparalleled struggle, we are ready to stamp the signet of bitter scorn on the brow of ignoble supineness, and to brand with everlasting infamy the cheek of quailing cowardice. When our property, our liberties, the future weal of posterity, the virtue of our wives, mothers, sisters and daughters are jeopardized, the man who is not willing, if the occasion demands it, to spend the last dollar, and shed the last drop of blood—*the man who is unwilling to march to this martyrdom as to a banquet, is unworthy of the name of freeman—deserves to be a slave!* As citizens, we are ready to applaud this sentiment when our temporal and political interests alone are at stake; but as Christians, I fear we fail to take such clear and comprehensive view of our obligations, in connection with the moral and spiritual wants of the country as are commensurate with the magnitude of the occasion. There can be no stability in popular governments

unless they are founded on the true principles of morality and religion. National destiny, especially in free governments, is always determined by its private virtue and public morals. With these plain, fundamental truths in view we are prepared to inquire in what do the peculiar duties of Christians consist, under the circumstances and amid the dangers by which we are surrounded?

As Christians our *first* duty is to cultivate a deep, heartfelt, controlling personal piety. Having climbed to the summit of a high and holy communion with God we should gather new inspiration for a loftier flight, when, like Moses, we survey beyond the turbid waters of death the vine-clad inheritance of the promised land.

God has promised "to avenge his own elect which cry day and night unto him." In the neglect of a cultivation of personal piety—a sense of entire dependence on God—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—Christians cannot expect to be blessed. In the full enjoyment of a highly cultivated personal spirituality is our only hope of individual happiness, or of national safety and renown.

As a people we have trampled under foot the richest blessings of Heaven, and have sinned without measure. There seems to be but little disposition on the part of the people, or our rulers to correct public abuses or to repent of national sins. Our only hope is, that in the cultivation of personal piety God will hear the prayers of his people, and for Christ's sake, "avenge his own elect." The tendencies and results of war are almost always demoralizing. So accustomed to the contemplation of scenes of blood and carnage does the citizen at home as well as the soldier in the field become that he loses to a vast extent his sense of horror at the thought of human woe, and the fountains of love and kindness are often sealed by the cement of a miserable selfishness, that seeks only personal aggrandizement and gain amid the tottering ruins of a bleeding country. The tendency is to indulge the baser passions, and to gratify the lower propensities of his nature. Unchecked, this tendency will reach its final acme in anarchy and confusion, in the utter subversion of all free government, and the ultimate establishment of a crushing despotism.

A well-directed, personal example, on the part of Christians, will do much to neutralize the demoralizing effects of the war at home. Let the preacher go from his knees to the pulpit, clothed with the panoply divine; let the church be punctual in its attendance upon the public ministrations of the sanctuary; let prayer meetings and Sabbath Schools be well attended and well sustained; let our entire people be induced to to sustain and read a pure religious literature; let the Bible be the man of every man's counsel, then with an humble reliance on the "Lord God Omnipotent" we will not fear the demoralizing effects of the war at home.

But there are duties that we owe to our brothers-in-arms. Away from the voice of their favorite preacher, from a father's counsel and a mother's prayers, a wife's adoration and a sister's love, and exposed too to peculiar and powerful temptations, they must be more than merely mortal if they come out of the fiery ordeal unscathed. Unless Christians at home meet the moral and spiritual wants of our soldiers, the result will be, when the war closes, we shall have rolled back upon us a flood-tide of immorality that will sweep the foundations of the social compact to its lowest deep, and will bury amid the ruins, in one common catastrophe, the institutions of liberty, both civil and religious. To avert these threatening dangers and these thickening calamities, our soldiers should be trained morally and spiritually. Much has already been done, but much more remains yet to be accomplished. God has blessed us with an army whose gallantry will suffer nothing in comparison with the "Old Guard" of Napoleon, the "Imperial Legions" of Cæsar, nor the veterans that followed the beardless hero of the Granicus to the conquest of the world. He has blessed us with an unprecedented harvest of cereals. Heaven's cornucopia has been emptied in rich profusion on our fields. Like an overflowing urn of mercy has Heaven's rich bounty been in a cataract-tide poured out upon our land. The Holy Spirit has visited the camps of our gallant armies, and hundreds of our brave brothers have become soldiers of the Cross. Thus by a threefold obligation does gratitude bind us to do our whole duty. While we remember the physical wants of the soldier—feed and clothe him—let us not forget the higher interests of his immortality.

Send the Preacher—the Colporteur, armed with Bibles, Testaments, religious books, papers and tracts, to our soldiers, and you will be instrumental not only in saving individual souls, but will do much to prevent the demoralizing influence that will be wielded with fearful effect when your army shall return to your homes and your bosoms.

Upon the Christians of this generation rests a fearful responsibility.—Awaking to a sense of our whole duty let us, brethren, look our whole danger fully in the face. Then let us discharge that duty like Christian heroes, and meet that danger like Christian martyrs. If treasure be demanded let the last dollar flow for the spiritual and temporal wants of our gallant heroes.

If more blood be required for our nation's baptism, if necessary, let every Southern man, woman and child pour their last drop into the baptismal font, and as the last, loud, lingering shriek of Freedom trembles on the lips of a dying nation, let them lay their quivering hearts, a willing sacrifice on Liberty's violated altar ! ! !